

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MADRID 06340 261743Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 ACDA-07 COME-00 /066 W  
-----074143 261950Z /64

P R 261625Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1512  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MADRID 6340

USEEC AND AMEMBASSY

PARIS TO BORDEAUX AND MARSEILLE

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, SP  
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE VIOLENCE IN THE BASQUE COUNTRY

REF: MADRID 6253

SUMMARY: THE APPROACHING END OF THE BASQUE "MARCH FOR  
LIBERTY," AND THE AMNESTY DEMONSTRATIONS FOR ETA TERRORIST  
FIGURE "APALA," HAVE A COMBINED POTENTIAL FOR VIOLENCE,  
PERHAPS AS EARLY AS THIS WEEKEND. END SUMMARY.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MADRID 06340 261743Z

1. MIGUEL ANGEL APALATEGUI (AKA "APALA," BELIEVED PARTLY  
RESPONSIBLE FOR YBARRA KIDNAPPING AND OTHER OFFENSES) IS  
BEING HELD BY FRENCH AUTHORITIES (REFTEL). REPEATED  
DEMONSTRATIONS IN SAN SEBASTIAN, TO DEMAND THAT SPANISH  
AUTHORITIES DROP THEIR EXTRADITION REQUEST, HAVE FRIGHTENED  
AWAY SUMMER VISITORS, AND SIMILAR DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE  
NOW SPREAD TO BILBAO. APALA IS DEEP INTO A HUNGER STRIKE,



AND REPORTEDLY NEAR DEATH. HE PRESENTS THE GOS WITH AN AUTHENTIC DILEMMA: HIS DEATH WOULD CREATE A MARTYR, AND COULD TOUCH OFF STREET VIOLENCE IN THE BASQUE COUNTRY (THE POLITICAL-MILITARY FACTION OF ETA HAS THREATENED A RETURN OF ACTION), YET BASIC CONSIDERATIONS OF PUBLIC ORDER AND GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY DEMAND THAT SOME CUT-OFF DATE BE ESTABLISHED, AFTER WHICH TERRORIST GUNMEN CANNOT GO FREE ON A PLEA OF "POLITICS." WHILE THE LATEST GOVT AMNESTY FIXED ON THE DECEMBER 15, 1976 REFERENDUM DATE, SOME LEFTIST AND REGIONALIST GROUPS FAVOR THE DATE OF THE JUNE 15, 1977 ELECTIONS INSETAD. APALA MAY POSSIBLY QUALIFY IF THE LATER DATE IS TAKEN: THE YBARRA KIDNAPPING TOOK PLACE BEFORE THE ELECTIONS, ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT MURDERED BY HIS CAPTORS UNTIL JUNE 18, APALA WAS ALREADY IN A FRENCH JAIL BY THAT DATE. AS OBSERVERS HERE NOTE, EVEN IF REASONS ARE FOUND TO FREE APALA AND ALL OTHER CURRENT PRISONERS, A PRETEX WILL NEVER BE LACKING FOR RENEWED TERRORISM, FOLLOWED BY NEW ARRESTS AND NEW DEMANDS FOR AMNESTY.

3. AFTER TWO MONTHS WINDING THROUGH THE BASQUE TOWNS AND CITIES, THE FOUR COLUMNS OF THE "MARCH FOR LIBERTY" ARE SCHEDULED TO MEET IN PAMPLONA ON SUNDAY, 28 AUGUST. ORGANIZERS CLAIM TO EXPECT 500,000 DEMONSTRATORS, THOUGH THEY MAY ATTRACT CONSIDERABLY LESS. LOCAL AUTHORITIES HAVE FORBIDDEN THEM ENTRY TO PAMPLONA ITSELF, OFFERING INSTEAD A SITE IN ORORRIA SEVEN KILOMETERS AWAY (AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MADRID 06340 261743Z

RIGHT NEXT TO AN AMERICAN UNION CARBIDE PLANT, WHOSE MANAGER HAS EXPRESSED HIS UNDERSTANDABLE CONCERN TO AMCONSUL BILBAO). ULTRA RIGHTISTS ARE REPORTEDLY ACTIVE IN THE AREA. AND THE POLITICAL TENSION HAS BEEN HEIGHTENED BY SPILL-OVER FROM THE APALA AFFAIR. MARCH ORGANIZERS HAVE SAID NOTHING PUBLICALLY AS YET, BUT AMCONSUL BILBAO HAS HEARD THAT THEY PLAN TO CONCENTRATE TWO GROUPS: ONE AT ORORRIA WOULD RALLY, AS PERMITTED BY THE AUTHORITIES, WHILE THE OTHER WOULD ATTEMPT TO ENTER PAMPLONA BY FORCE. IN ANTICIPATION OF SOME SUCH MOVE, THE AUTHORITIES ARE REPORTEDLY CONCENTRATING LARGE NUMBERS OF POLICE IN PAMPLONA. A VIOLENT CONFRONTATION WITH POLICE AND/OR RIGHTIST IS QUITE POSSIBLE, AND EVEN LIKELY, IF THE DEMONSTRATORS ARE LOOKING FOR TROUBLE, AND ESPECIALLY IF APALA SHOULD DIE (OR BE RUMORED TO HAVE DIED) IN THE MEANTIME. STABLER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE



NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONSTITUTION, CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 26-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MADRID06340  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770309-0880  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MADRID  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770819/aaaaappe.tel  
**Line Count:** 109  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 2cdc5b52-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 MADRID 6253  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1470385  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** POSSIBLE VIOLENCE IN THE BASQUE COUNTRY  
**TAGS:** PINT, SP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/2cdc5b52-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009